

POST-OFFICE NAMES.

Odd Cognomens Bestowed Upon Some Newly-Created Offices.

Naming a post-office is like naming a child—there is no accounting for the taste displayed in the name selected. Usually the post-office is named after the town, and when the town is started some enterprising citizen gets in his deadly work and the town is named after him. Others take their names from surroundings and often from incidents which happened when the site was first selected. Some are good, others bad; some long and some short, but there seems to be a general disregard of the proprieties in the selection of names. For instance, Happy Camp is the name of a newly-created post-office in California, and the probabilities are that the inhabitants are constantly fighting, and the only person who is happy is the undertaker, who is growing wealthy. Mountain View is more likely to be the name of a village at the bottom of a two-hundred-foot hill than to be near a mountain, while Marble Cliff is very remote from a marble quarry.

Passing events also help decide the names of places, and with the Johnstown horror fresh in the public mind many smaller towns will select that name to emphasize the establishment of the place.

Peace and Cain are two villages where post-offices have been established in Alabama, while Rat, Rye and Urbanity have been discontinued. Sassaparilla is the name of a spicy Arkansas village, while people who desire to go to a new postal station in Alaska will have to have their letters addressed to Belkowsky. California has a choice collection of new names. Bitter Water, Calabass, Orosi and Simiopolis make a splendid quartette. Tourtelotte and Bovina are Colorado offices. Dakota, as becomes a newly-admitted State, is selecting names for its new offices from among those who advocated its admission, and is getting rid of its old Territorial names, reminiscent as they were with the names bestowed by cow-punchers whose idea of the ridiculous was very keen.

The warm climate of Georgia boasts of an Arctic town, while Siskier is the name of a village in Idaho.

The people of Illinois were so glad to get new postal facilities that they did not stop to complete the names, and sent them out as Lis and Mac. Nail and Cheek are two villages in the Indian Territory. Fritz, Snyder and McBrayer represent the ruling population in three Kentucky places. China is located in Michigan, and Minnesota boasts of its short Line Park. Missouri contains Last and Clio. Raten is in Nebraska, while Redstone takes its name from the granite hills of New Hampshire. New York is provided with a Best, an Echo and a Jayville. Stem and Wharf are the names of two post-offices in North Carolina, and Scrub, Ego and Twin have Ohio written after them on envelopes.

Ale and Joy, while both are in Oregon, are not in the same county, and there is no connection between the two. Peach Tree, Early, Orphan's Home and Venus are in Texas. Exit and Joe are in the neighboring State of Virginia, and Washington has a newly-created small post-office called Nickel, while Fossil and Shell complete the list for Wyoming.—Washington Post.

THE LITTLE WOMAN.

She Needs Only Express Her Wishes and They Will Be Obedied.

A pretty little woman with soft, appealing eyes, a low voice and an air of daintiness in dress and manner. Not much force about such a little creature, you say? She will never set the world afire. My dear sir, you are mistaken. It is just such sweet, helpless-seeming little women who have set the world afire—at least the portion of it over which their influence extended—and who will do it again. I'll wager Helen of Troy was such a woman. The dainty bit of femininity seems very helpless indeed. She sits still and lets a man attend to her fare, she takes the seat he offers, she accepts his assistance in getting out of the stage, and she accepts it all with a pleasant smile. Yes, my friends, that is the woman that rules the world. She rules it by her helplessness, just as the whitest, sweetest, daintiest morsel of a baby, enthroned in frills, and cambric, and fine lace, can govern an establishment of men, and they feel proud of their tyrant. The tyranny of weakness is the strongest in the world. The woman who rules is really the woman who says: "Protect me." The woman who says: "I will protect you," is the sort of hybrid who may rule one man, who may always spell woman with a capital W, and prefer a stub pen, but that is the extent of her monarchy. Weak woman, daring to face the March wind; weak woman, with no idea as to her rights or her wrongs; weak woman, with strong opinions as to the value of a kiss, a smile, a pleasant word; weak woman will have all arms opened to her with a request that she will only express her wishes and they will be obeyed.—N. Y. Fashion Bazar.

Father's Qualified Consent.

"I'd like to ask you, sir," said the young man in hesitating tones, "might I—might I—marry your daughter?" "Humph," replied her father. "You might."

"Thank you, sir."

"You might, I repeat, but it would be one of the most inexplicable accidents that ever happened in this country."—Washington Capital.

CORONERS' VERDICTS.

Curious and Ridiculous Findings Returned by "Intelligent" Jurors.

Some cases of comparatively recent occurrence will serve to illustrate the defects of the coroner system. Here are four instances from a single New England State. In a certain town a man shot himself.

"A coroner hearing of the act, and still in ignorance whether death had occurred, summoned a jury and hastened to the place, only to find the man alive. Selecting the nearest saloon as a waiting-place, the coroner and his jury remained there until the man was dead, employing a boy in the neighborhood to keep them informed as to the man's condition, until he had ceased to breathe, when they proceeded with the inquest."

In another place:

"The body of a drowned man was towed across a mill-pond from one town to another, to save the first town, in which the body was found, the expense of inquest fees."

The following humorous verdict was rendered by a Tennessee coroner's jury:

"He came to his death from the following causes, to wit: From some sudden cause to the jurors unknown."

An Irishman named O'Connor was killed in Minnesota, by one Cochrane, and about his death body assembled a jury of six men, who rendered the following verdict, given here without the original spelling:

"Martin O'Connor, here lying dead, came to his death by a shot from a gun, which caused the blood to rush in torrents from his body, so that it was impossible for him to live until we could hold an inquest."

The following is reported from Kentucky:

"Inquisition held on the body of Holmes, deceased December 8, 1893. We of the said jury, by being summoned and qualified, and hearing the evidences, and making true and diligent resentsments over the said body of said deceased, twelve men met, and, being duly sworn into the case, believes that he came to his death by some fit or other apoplexy. Doctor being duly sworn by myself, coroner, states that the lobis membrane of the spinal disease was affected to a considerable extent."—Forum.

MRS. MACKAY'S JEWELS.

A Collection of Gems Including a Sapphire Worth \$150,000.

Mrs. Mackay's collection of jewels is superb, and some of her gems are the finest in the world.

One of her sapphires, American visitors to her houses in London and Paris think, surpasses in beauty any other in the world. It is absolutely flawless, and is all of four-tenths of an inch in diameter. She bought it from a Russian prince for \$150,000. She owns also the most splendid emerald known to exist, and paid a fabulous price for it. Among the bagatelles of her jewel-box are a set of corals comprising a crown, a brooch, bracelet, and so on, all of the most exquisite rose pink in hue.

She has also a pair of diamond solitaires so magnificent that they are valued at more than \$400,000. One of them was bought for her at the sale of the effects of the Duke of Brunswick. She commissioned a jeweler to purchase a mate for it. The jeweler spent two years in searching before he could find an opportunity of executing the commission. Two years were required also to complete the collection of coral gems. The only other like it or equal to it is owned by the Queen of Portugal.

Most of these exquisite and costly gems will probably go some day to Mrs. Mackay's daughter, the Princess Colonna, unless, indeed, her sons, who are being trained up to business in this country, should have the good sense to follow their father's example and marry American women, in which case, it is to be presumed, some of these gems would remain in the United States. Notwithstanding the sarcasm indulged in by some of the French and most of the so-called society journals of London at Mrs. Mackay's expense, she has been extremely kind to Americans abroad, and when she reaches Philadelphia she will receive a cordial greeting from some members of the conservative society of the Quaker City, who have received her splendid hospitality in Paris.—Philadelphia Letter.

Good Things to Eat in Egypt.

In coming from India to Suez I met an English gentleman who said he supposed I would find nothing good to eat in Cairo. He looked upon the Egyptians as heathens and had no idea that there were good hotels, good markets, and all the modern conveniences at Cairo. I have made inquiries as to the cost of food in this capital of Egypt, and I find that good turkeys, which will rank in size and weight with the best of our Thanksgiving birds, are worth from \$1 to \$1.50 each; good fat geese bring from \$2 to \$4 per pair and chickens sell from 40 cents to \$1. Choice cuts of beef and mutton bring 40 cents a pound, and the palate of the foreign resident of Cairo is tickled with splendid oranges at 1 cent each. All kinds of vegetables are cheap and good, and eggs bring from 5 to 20 cents a dozen.—F. G. Carpenter's Egyptian Letter.

—Mr. Wilkie Collins is short and delicate-looking, with very small hands and feet and a cheerful face. His luxuriant hair and beard are snowy white, and he habitually wears spectacles. He is an inveterate smoker.

KEEP YOURSELVES PRETTY.

Some Sound Advice Addressed to Mothers and Daughters.

To keep briefly, a woman should always, whatever her work, hurry, dress herself neatly, prettily, and begin her day with a splash of pure water is in it. An ornamental not only removes all the phlegm of the previous day, but also seems with holy touch to renew the heart, leaving a fresh page for the sweet, new life of the new day. The hair should be nicely arranged and becomingly. I have often wondered how women have the courage to present themselves before their families in "crimps." I have been married many years, but never yet have felt myself willing to leave in the memory of my husband and children a single picture of me in so ludicrous a guise. If, however, you must have crimps, wrap some becoming bit of veiling over your Medusa head and hide your horns from view.

The hair being nicely fixed dress yourself in calico, or what you will, that is suited to your work, but have it pretty and neatly fitting; and always wear a collar.

A bit of ribbon gives the grace, the air, the prettiness. A ribbon-box should be well supplied. A fresh collar and ribbon not only make a woman sweet and comely to look upon, a morning joy to the husband and children, but the woman herself, conscious of being properly dressed, is more quiet, less fretful. There is nothing like a slovenly attire to make a woman hate her work and her home.

Many a hard-worked wife and mother seems to think it a part of her lot to look like a last year's bird's nest. But it is as cheap to dress prettily as to dress shabbily, and takes but little more time.

A woman should always be well dressed. I mean that her attire should be neat, becoming, suitable, and such that she should feel no shame in the eyes of those who love her best, whose eyes are always the most sensitive. I have heard of a woman who always wore bright bows on her slippers. Asked her reason, she said she wished her boy to notice that her slippers were pretty, and to associate her with the prettiness. It was a good reason.

Children receive their ideas and form their habits of thought while yet children. Little helps the young girl to learn in after years the importance of perfect cleanliness in dress, if during the years of childhood she daily played about a mother who was not clean and nice. Men have a passionate admiration of every thing feminine. They love daintiness, and daintiness goes as well in calico as silk.

Dear wives and mothers, keep yourselves pretty. Be lavish in white aprons; and if the work hurls a bit, or you come to eat or to sit, have a white apron to take the place of the work-apron.

If a woman would always be that beautiful, ungrasped joy that the maid is to her lover, she should keep her reserves. I hardly know how to fit words to my thought. The wife should ever have something more to offer to him she loves. She should be old, yet new, each day, old in the dear love and closeness, the closeness of the married years, old in the dear memories together; old in the common cares and struggles together; but new in greater patience, more gentleness, in some new trick of beauty, new in thought, more glad in love, more tender in sympathy.—Chicago Advance.

SENSE INTELLIGENCE.

Instances of the Well-Developed Sense of Smell in Horses.

The horse will leave musty hay untouched in his bin, no matter how hungry. He will not drink of water objectionable to his questioning sniffs or from a bucket which some other odor makes offensive, however thirsty. His intelligent nostril will widen, quiver and query over the daintiest bit offered by the fairest of hands. A mare is never satisfied by either sight or touch until she has certified the fact by means of her nose. Blind horses, as a rule, will gallop wildly about a pasture without striking the surrounding fence. The sense of smell informs them of its proximity. Others will when loosened from the stable go directly to the gate or bars opening to their accustomed feeding ground; and when desiring to return, after hours of careless wandering, will distinguish the one outlet and patiently await its opening. The odor of that particular part of the fence is their guide to it. The horse in browsing, or while gathering herbage with his lip, is guided in its choice of proper food entirely by its nostrils. Blind horses do not make mistakes in their diet. In the temple of Olympus a bronze horse was exhibited, at the sight of which six real horses experienced the most violent emotions. Aelian judiciously observes that the most perfect art could not imitate nature sufficiently well to produce so perfect an illusion. Like Pliny and Pausanias, he consequently affirms that "in casting the statue a magician had thrown hippomanes upon it," which, by the odor of the plant, deceived the horses, and therein we have the secret of the miracle. The scent alone of a buffalo robe will cause many horses to evince dread, terror, and the floating scent of a railroad train will frighten some long after the locomotive is out of sight and hearing.—Horse and Stable.

—It is said that the life of rose plants greatly varies. Some of the hardiest kind will bloom for thirty years, while others die off after several seasons.

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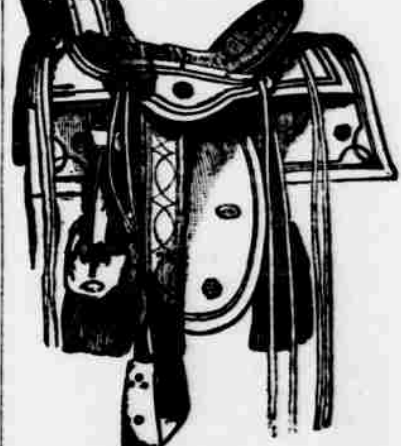
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